

NONIMMIGRANT VISA INFORMATION IMPORTANT – READ CAREFULLY

A valid visa is necessary for most aliens who wish to apply for entry into the United States. Under U.S. law, all aliens seeking admission are presumed to require an immigrant visa unless they establish that they are entitled to receive a visa in one of the nonimmigrant visa categories. The most widely known nonimmigrant visa category is the visitor visa, which is issued to aliens who wish to enter the United States temporarily for business purposes (B-1) or for tourism, visit to relatives and friends, or similar reasons (B-2). Other categories of nonimmigrant visas are required for persons who wish to enter as representatives of foreign governments (A & G), in transit (C), as crewmen (D), treaty traders and investors (E), students in academic or language programs (F), temporary workers and trainees (H), journalists (I), exchange visitors (J), fiancé (e) s of U.S. citizens (K), intracompany transferees (L), students in vocational or other nonacademic programs (M), the parents of certain special immigrants (N), temporary workers of extraordinary ability (O), athletes and entertainers (P), cultural exchange visitors (Q) and religious workers (R).

A nonimmigrant visa for a particular category is valid for entry only for the purpose for which it was originally issued. For example, a student visa cannot be used for entry as a visitor, nor can the possessor of a visitor visa enter to study.

A visa is not a guarantee of entry into the United States. The bearer of a visa is subject to inspection at the port of entry by U.S. immigration officials who have authority to deny admission. Therefore, the recipient of a visa should carry with him/her, for possible presentation to immigration inspectors, the evidence submitted to the consular officer when the visa was obtained.

The validity period shown in a nonimmigrant visa relates to the period during which it may be used in making application for admission into the United States; it does not indicate the length of time the alien may spend in the United States. The period for which the bearer of a nonimmigrant visa is authorized to remain in the United States is determined by the U.S. Immigration authorities at the port of entry. A nonimmigrant who remains in the United States beyond the period for which he/she has been granted permission to stay may become subject to deportation.

Certain categories of nonimmigrant visas require special documentation which can be furnished only by an authority in the United States. These categories include students, who must have a valid Form I-20 A-B or I-20 M-N issued by the prospective school; exchange visitors, who must have a Form IAP-66 issued by the sponsoring organization; and temporary workers and trainees, intracompany transferees, fiancé (e) s of U.S. citizens, athletes and entertainers, and cultural exchange visitors, all of who must have a specific petition filed on their behalf and approved by the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service.

There is a visa application fee whether or not the visa is issued. In addition, there may be an additional fee if you receive the visa. This fee is approximately the same as that which is charged by your government to a United States citizen for a similar type of visa. Contact the U.S. Embassy, Consulate General or Consulate in the district where you reside or where you will apply for your visa for more information.

TO APPLY FOR A NONIMMIGRANT VISA

1. Complete this application form by PRINTING all of the answers. **YOU MUST ANSWER EVERY QUESTION. IF NOT APPLICABLE, SO STATE.**
2. Submit your passport with the completed application form. Your passport should be valid for at least 6 months longer than your intended period of stay in the United States.
3. A separate application and fee is required for each traveler, regardless of age, and whether or not more than one person is included in the same passport.
4. Present a recent color photograph 1-½ inches square (37 x 37 mm) with your usual signature written on the REVERSE side. ALL APPLICANTS MUST PRESENT A PHOTO.
5. Evidence substantiating the purpose of your trip and your intention to depart from the United States after a temporary visit may be required. Such evidence might include: a letter from your employer, documents outlining your plans while in the United States, and other evidence showing why you would return abroad after a short stay, such as family ties, employment, or similar binding obligations in your home country. Students are required to present a completed Form I-20 A-B or I-20 M-N; exchange visitors must present a Form IAP-66; and temporary workers and intracompany transferees, fiancé (e) s, athletes and entertainers, and cultural exchange visitors must show evidence of a petition approved by the Immigration Service. Supplementary information will also be required of treaty traders and investors, fiancé (e) s, and religious workers. Evidence should also be submitted regarding the arrangements you have made to cover your expenses while in the United States and to provide for your departure from the United States.

The above requirements are not inclusive, in that all applicants will not be required to submit all documents, and some applicants will be required by the consular officer to submit additional documents. In order to avoid delay, it is to your advantage to submit as complete documentation as possible when you first submit your visa application.

NONIMMIGRANT INFORMATION, APPOINTMENT SYSTEM AND THE APPLICATION PROCESS

1. To book an appointment for an interview, visa renewal, or for more information, call our Nonimmigrant Visa Call Center at **1-909-101-0000**. This is a toll call costing 20 pesos per minute, plus applicable NDD charges for calls from outside of Manila. Available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
2. Pay your application fee at any designated branch of Citibank or Bank of the Philippine Islands (BPI).
3. Gather together several documents that show strong ties to the Philippines. "Ties" are any activities that obligate you to return (i.e. social, economic, and family).

DOCUMENTS THAT CAN BE USEFUL TO THE INTERVIEWING OFFICER:

- The last 3 months' worth of monthly bank statements or bank passbooks (**required**)
- Employment certification including salary, tenure, position
- Credit card statements for prior three months
- Marriage/Birth Certificates issued on NSO security paper (required if applying with or for spouse and children)
- INS Form certifying an extension of stay in the United States (required if you stayed longer than 6 months on a B1/B2 Visitor's Visa)
- Vehicle registrations
- Land Title (originals only, no certified copies please)
- All previously issued passports or affidavit of loss (**required**)

HOLIDAY NOTICE: Consular Offices are closed on all legal holidays of the Philippines and of the United States of America and any additional Philippine holidays declared by presidential proclamation. If your appointment for interview falls on a declared holiday by the Philippine Government, please call our call center for a new appointment.

Misrepresenting a material fact (submitting a fraudulent document or making a false statement) can bar you from entry into the U.S.

APPLY FOR YOUR VISA AT LEAST 3 MONTHS IN ADVANCE AND BEFORE YOU MAKE FINAL TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

For more information, visit our web site: <http://usembassy.state.gov/manila>